ROM

March 1974

The Chairman
and the Board of Trustees of the
Royal Ontario Museum
request the honour of the presence of

Mr. E. H. Burwash

at the Opening of the Museum by
Field Marshal His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught,
at three o'clock on Thursday, March the nineteenth,
nineteen hundred and fourteen.

Southwest corner of Bloor Street and Avenue Road.

ROM March 1974

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Cover: original invitation for the official opening of the Royal Ontario Museum building in 1914. See *Magnificent Museum Opened by Governor* in Spotlight, and *Museum Memorabilia* in Preview.

Chairman's Newsletter

Dear Member:

I mentioned to you in my special letter of January 17, 1974 that the Museum was moving slowly ahead toward the expansion of our Toronto premises and specifically that we are beginning to search for a Toronto architect. The renovation of Exhibition Hall, which was referred to in *ROM* February Spotlight, will be the first change that members will see. Before next summer, Exhibition Hall which is familiar to members as the location of many of our periodic exhibits, such as the Textiles exhibition "Cut my Cote", the "Japanese Art" exhibition, and the science exhibition "Nature's Biographer", will be completely redesigned.

Some members will recall that Exhibition Hall was originally built as a simple 'unfinished' structure, about the size and shape of a high school gymnasium, to house the Chinese tomb figures which are now in the Chinese garden. In 1959 it was decided that the figures, having been designed to stand outdoors, could indeed stand the rigours of the Canadian climate and they were moved to their present site.

Once the tomb figures had been removed, Exhibition Hall was re-structured by the addition of a mezzanine floor. The construction in 1959 was intended to be temporary and no specific provision was made for heavy exhibits to be located on the second floor. With the thought that we might be receiving larger exhibits in 1974 and in the years beyond, the Board, at its meeting in June, 1973, approved an engineering study of Exhibition Hall with a view to increasing the area available for exhibitions and/or galleries. In the course of this study, additional factors were considered, as plans were discussed for future exhibitions, as well as the desirability of installing climate control and washrooms.

ROM's Chinese garden in Canadian winter.

As a result of this study, it has now been decided to make some changes in Exhibition Hall. These are basically the installation of a well-supported mezzanine floor, which would increase the Exhibition area from a little under 5,000 square feet to a little more than 7,000 square feet (that is about equal to the Armour Court) but more important, increase the floor loading on the mezzanine to about 125 pounds per square foot, and the installation of air-conditioning.

While the future of Exhibition Hall is closely linked to our expansion plans, which have not yet been finalized, it seems likely that the Hall will be in use for the next seven to ten years. Even now we are planning for Exhibitions for 1976. This renovation means that the Museum will be able to offer its members and the public generally an Exhibition Hall capable of showing larger exhibitions than we do at present. The added advantage of climate control, including both temperature and humidity, will be much kinder to both exhibits and visitors.

I hope in the very near future to be able to give you more information on the exhibitions planned for the new Exhibition Hall later this year.

Noah Torno,
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Spotlight

Magnificent Museum Opened by Governor

Duke of Connaught Performs Ceremony which Makes Ontario's New Treasurehouse of All the Ages Accessible to the Public — History of the Enterprise.

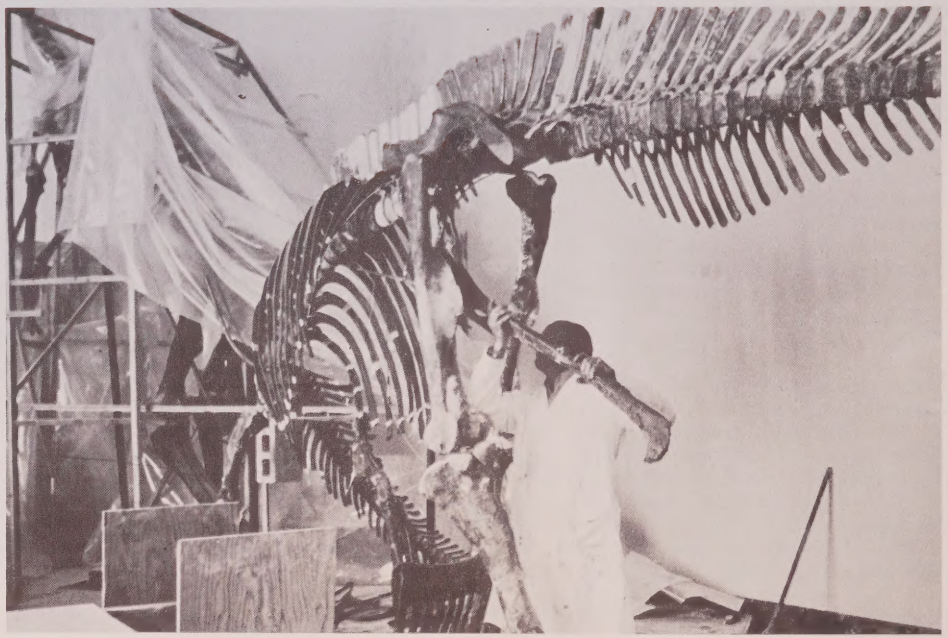
In a manner befitting its name the Royal Ontario Museum was auspiciously opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught yesterday afternoon. The occasion was one that the Board of Trustees had long anticipated, and towards its consummation had made unselfish expenditures of time and money. Probably one thousand invited guests filled the large room on the top floor, which hereafter will be devoted to the natural history specimens, and the overflow swarmed the other floors and the various departments that were open.

The foregoing is a part of a story which appeared in *The Globe,* Toronto, March 20, 1914. To mark this date, sixty years later, the Museum is presenting an exhibition of 'Museum Memorabilia' in honour of Sir Edmund Walker, the first Chairman, and members of the first Board of the Museum. Details inside Preview.

Dinosaurs Ready for Visitors

Once again children can come to the Museum to visit their all-time favourite — the awesome Dinosaur. On March 12, 1974, the second phase of the new Vertebrate Palaeontology gallery will be open to the public.

A continuation of the same dramatic effects as the first section, the Hall of Vertebrate Evolution opened in January 1971, this new area displays skeletons of some of the larger vertebrates.



Partly completed skeleton of Lambeosaurus, on display in the new Vertebrate Palaeontology gallery.

The 'Age of the Dinosaurs' gallery is divided into three parts: the first features the history of dinosaurs, from their death, through fossilization, to collection and exhibition; the second features the life of Cretaceous dinosaurs from Western Canada; and the final area contains four skeletons of Jurassic dinosaurs – exhibited for the first time.

The audio-visual aids include giant transparencies, slides, film loops and sound effects, to make the tour of the 'Age of the Dinosaurs' a memorable experience.

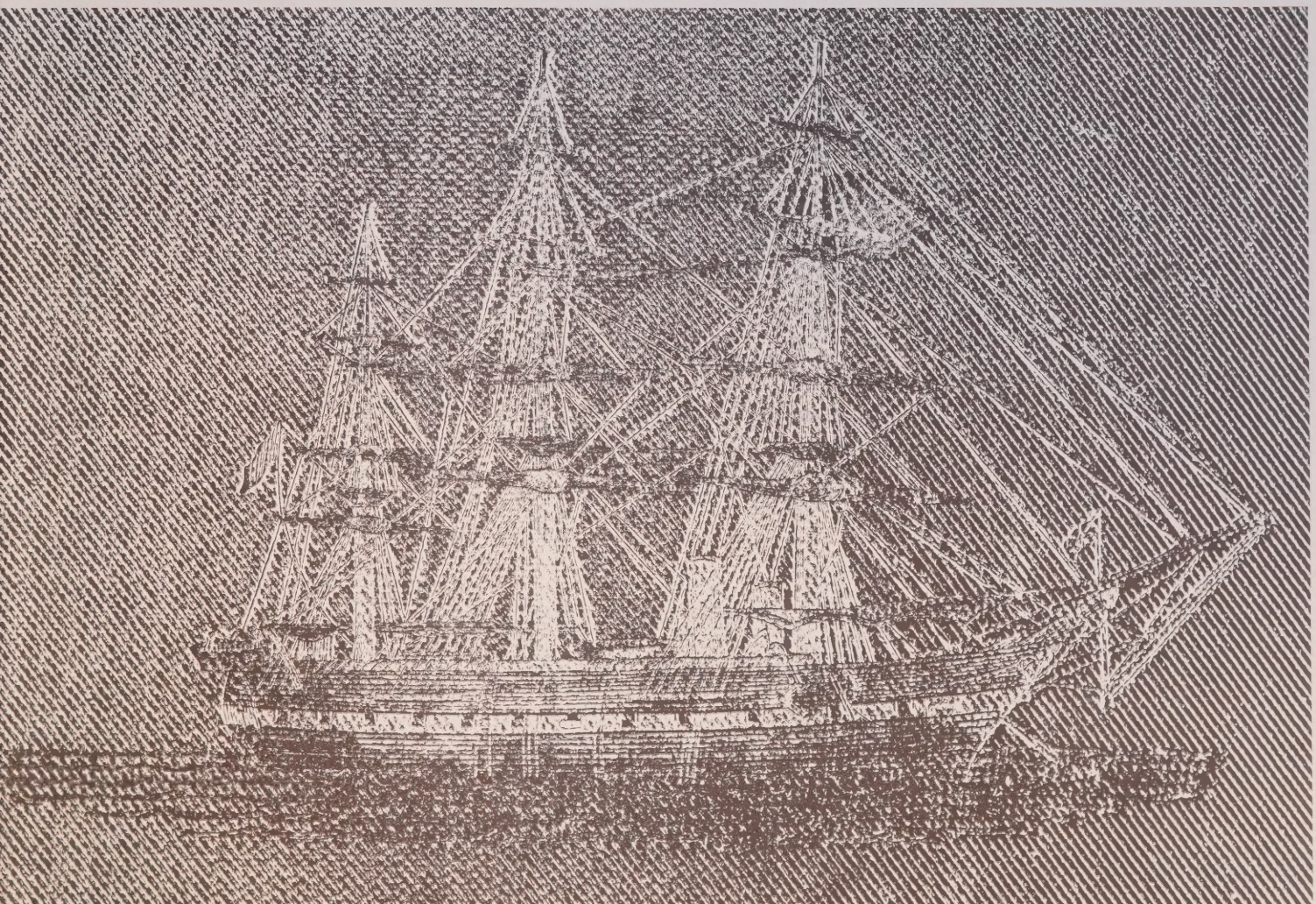
Saturday Morning Club

Application forms for the 1974-75 season of the Saturday Morning Club, and information regarding age-groups, season and programme, will be available at the Reception Desk, inside the front entrance, of the Museum from March 30 to April 6, 1974. Applications must be picked up, we cannot mail them out; and children will be accepted to the Club on a 'first-come first-serve' basis. The Club is open to children of both Museum members and non-members.

Preview

March

Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6



March 1974

People's Art: Naïve Art in Canada
to March 10

A major exhibition of oils, watercolours, sculptures and a variety of Primitive, Naïve, and Folk art in Canada. Arranged to present several aspects of the diversity of Canadian life. From the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.

Canadian Antiques to March 10

Early Canadian decorative arts: treen, glass, graphics, pottery and silver from the Canadiana collections. Third Floor Rotunda.

Harvest '73 to March 31

A selection of items acquired by the Textile Department during 1973 including a special group of Canadian textiles in memory of Harold B. Burnham, acquired through the generosity of his friends. Textile Gallery. Tours Tuesdays at 2.

Saturday Morning Club March 5-25

Artwork and projects by children of ROM's Saturday Morning Club made during the winter sessions. Children's Gallery, lower level, closes at 5 p.m.

Museum Memorabilia March 16-24

An exhibition in honour of Sir Edmund Walker, the first Chairman, and members of the first Board of the Museum, marking the 60th anniversary of the official opening of the ROM building (March 19, 1914). A selection of gifts to the Museum by these people and by 'Friends of the Arts' as well as photographs and related material illustrating the Museum's beginnings and continued growth. Lower Rotunda.

Cover: HMS Challenger. **100 Years of Oceanography** exhibition.

Ryerson: A Community of Photographers
March 26 to April 21

Photographs, photo silk screens and etchings by students and faculty members of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. Lower Rotunda.

One Hundred Years of Oceanography
March 26 to April 28

Charts, models, written and graphic material outline the science of oceanography over the past 100 years, and Canada's role from the HMS Challenger expedition (1872-74) to the present. Third Floor Rotunda.

Stamps March 1 to April 15

Early engraved issues of Great Britain — 1840 and subsequent years. Stamp Corner, Lower Rotunda.

Stars, Bears and Dragons March 14 to June 16

A serious look at some of the mythology of the Spring Sky, as well as a discussion of some modern astronomical discoveries. Theatre of the Stars, McLaughlin Planetarium.

Theatre of the Stars Show Times

Tuesday to Friday: 3, 8 p.m.
Saturday: 2, 3:30, 7:30, 9 p.m.
Sunday: 2, 3:30, 5, 7:30 p.m.
Holidays: 2, 3:30 p.m.
Shows last about 50 minutes. Children under the age of six are not admitted to the Theatre.

Lectures

Oceanography Thursday, March 7 at 8:30 p.m.
ROM Theatre, Free

Dr. D. Owen, of the University Museum, University of Pennsylvania, will discuss A Decade of Underwater Archaeology in the Mediterranean Sea.

Art and History in Roman Relief Sculpture
Thursday, March 7 at 4:30 p.m.
Planetarium Lecture Room, Free

An illustrated lecture by Gerhard M. Koeppel of the University of North Carolina. Sponsored by the Toronto Society of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Cultural Interchange between Greece and Ancient Egypt Thursday, March 14 at 8:30 p.m.
Planetarium Lecture Room, Free

An illustrated lecture by Professor R. J. Williams, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto. Sponsored by the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities.

Literary Readings

Other Voices March 6 to April 3

Wednesdays at 5:30, Bishop White Gallery, Free. A variety of languages, other than English and French, is spoken and written in Canada. In this series Canadian poets will read their works in some of these many languages, accompanied by an English translation.

March 6
Walter Bauer, of the German Department, U. of T., has written numerous biographies and volumes of verse. He will read in German.

March 13
Waclaw Iwaniuk, one of the most distinguished Polish poets in Canada, will read in Polish.

March 20
Robert Zend, author of the recently published "From Zero to One", will read in Hungarian.

March 27
Ludwig Zeller, a surrealist artist and poet from Chile, will read in Spanish.

April 3
George Faludi, one of the most distinguished poets in Canada, will read in Hungarian.

Miscellaneous

Rare Antique Piano Lecture-Demonstration, ROM Theatre

A rare Ernst Rosenkranz pianoforte of Beethoven's time (c. 1797) will be the basis of a recital, lecture and demonstration.
Tuesday, March 12, 8 p.m.
Dr. Dowell Multer, pianist, and Professor Alan Harris, cellist, will perform the *Sonata Opus 5, No. 1 in F Major* by Beethoven, immediately following the film "The Ernst Rosenkranz Piano" Free admission.
Wednesday, March 13, 2 p.m.
Dr. Multer, Director of piano and keyboard studies at the State University College at Brockport, New York, will discuss and illustrate pianos of Mozart's and Beethoven's era. Free with Museum admission.

Films

Sunday Evening Films to March 17,

Sundays at 7. ROM Theatre, Free
March
3 Happy Anniversary
Passengers or Partners?
10 The Restless Earth — Plate Tectonics Theory
17 The Twenty-Four Dollar Island
N.Y., N.Y. (New York, New York)
Flowers on a One-Way Street

Family Films to March 17, Sundays at 2:30.

ROM Theatre, free with Museum admission
March
3 African Craftsmen: The Ashanti
Legend of the Magic Knife
Dream of Wild Horses
The Cheetah
Ancient New World
10 Grasses
People at Dipper
Five Foot Square
The Rise and Fall of the Great Lakes
17 Chinese Theatre
Ecology: Checks and Balances
Evolution
Glooscap Country

ROM presents NFB to March 27

Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. ROM Theatre, Free
March
6 The Sunny Munchy Crunchy Natural Food Shop
Winter Potpourri
The Underground Movie
We Call Them Killers
13 Children of Fogo Island
Balablock
Bird of Passage
Valley of the Moon
At The Winter Sea Ice Camp
20 Offshore
Where Do We Go From Here?
The Family That Dwelt Apart
Goodbye Susa
27 Food
Hudson 70
Bannerfilm
La Gastronomie

Scene from **Aparajito.** Canadian Film Archives.

Aparajito Sunday, March 24, 7 p.m.

ROM Theatre, Free
A special screening of the second in Satyajit Ray's trilogy on Apu.

ROM Services

ROM Public Hours, 100 Queen's Park

Tuesday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday: 1 to 9 p.m.
Monday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Adult admission 50 cents, free after 5 p.m. Accompanied children free. Senior citizens and students with identification free.

ROM Libraries

The Reference Library on the second level is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Astronomical Library, McLaughlin Planetarium, Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ROM Restaurants

A comfortable restaurant serving hot lunches and snacks is located on the main floor by the Armour Court and is open until 8 p.m. The Dinosaur Den children's cafeteria, on the Lower Level, closes at 4 p.m.

Members' Lounge

A quiet licensed lounge, located down the stairs by the main restaurant, is available to all members of the Museum. Mondays from 12 to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Fridays 12 to 9 p.m.

Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building

14 Queen's Park Cres. West
Monday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Information

Museum: 928-3690 **Planetarium:** 928-8550

ROM Shops
During the month of March, a selection of jewellery, including modern and traditional designs from around the world, will be marked down 20%; and there will be 30% off all pewter. No Members' discount on sale items.

Book and Gift Shop Hours
Tuesday to Thursday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday, Saturday, Monday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ROM Membership
Membership in the Museum is a rewarding experience. For $25 annually (individual), or $40 (family with two cards), a member receives free admission, use of the licensed Members' Lounge, a 10% discount on purchases over $2.00 at the three ROM Shops, invitations to preview parties, *ROM* the monthly publication of Museum events and *Rotunda* the illustrated quarterly magazine. For residents outside metropolitan Toronto, individual annual membership is $15.
Lifetime membership in the Museum is also invited as follows:
Life: $500
Fellow: $1,000
Benefactor: $2,500
Endowment: $5,000
Patron: $10,000
Fellow, Benefactor, Endowment and Patron categories are income tax deductible.
Call 928-3704 or write to the Membership Office.

Tours

ROM Gallery Tours
Weekdays, except holidays. Free with Museum admission. Tours subject to change

March	at 12:15	at 2
1	18th Century, Age of Elegance	Mesopotamia and Iran
4	A Taste of China	Islamic Art
5	Death Among the Egyptians	Harvest '73
6	Gemstones	Lee Collection of Small Treasures
7	Evolution of Mammals	Planetarium
8	Masks and Ceremonials	Enigma of the Etruscans
11	Chinese Porcelain	Japanese Art
12	General Science Tour	Harvest '73
13	Sculpture of Egypt	European Glass
14	Stories in Greek Vases	Planetarium
15	Survival of the Fittest	Arts of India
18	Buddhist Art	Highlights of the ROM
19	Death Among the Egyptians	Harvest '73
20	The Earth's Treasures	Glory of Athens
21	General Tour	Windows on Nature's World
22	Romance of Jade	European Porcelain
25	Chinese Arts	Highlights of the ROM
26	Populating the Americas	Harvest '73
27	English Porcelain	Chinese Bronzes
28	English Period Rooms	Planetarium
29	Native Peoples of Canada	Jewellery Through the Ages

Canadiana Tours
Every Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. in the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.
March
6 The Canadian Chair
13 Canadian Furniture
20 Story of Silver
27 Water Colours of the 19th Century

Planetarium Tours
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. in the McLaughlin Planetarium. Note: tours will not be given on Tuesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 21, 1974.

Inside ROM

'There's a Fish in My Computer'

If its responsibilities are broad, its staff limited and the number and variety of people it serves extensive, an organization has to be innovative and prepared to utilize aspects of modern technology which will help get work done as efficiently as possible. Museums are like this, and in museums efficiency usually means the efficient use of human resources and time.

Museums have been quick to follow, in a modest way, the lead of business and industry in some respects. One of these has been the recognition that computers can help us to better utilize time and human resources. As in many businesses, commercial computers now handle the perplexing problems of museum salary deductions, cheque preparation and many standard museum accounting procedures.

A major museum problem, the catalogues of the varied collections of the 19 distinct departments in the Royal Ontario Museum, is akin to the business problems of inventory, stock control and stock records.

Prior to 1967, the records of life sciences collections at ROM consisted of some combination of a specimen label, one or more 3 x 5 cards for a geographic or time-scale record by species, and a master ledger. All of these were carefully and laboriously printed by hand in india ink or typed. This work consumed the equivalent of 20 to 80% of the time of one staff member in each department, depending on the department's rate of acquisition. The collections were increasing at a rate which made the job of maintaining the catalogues difficult. Routine cataloguing took more and more time away from the more important tasks of working with the collections and interpreting them in order to add to our knowledge of the animals represented in them. Also,

Automatic cataloguing provides more time for department personnel to study specimens.

the trend in museum concepts had been toward making the specimen collections more valuable by vastly increasing the amount of ecological or supplementary data associated with each specimen, or lot of specimens. There is also an ever-increasing demand on museum collections for information of a more complex form, such as 'how many specimens of lake trout do you have which are over 250 mm. in length, and which were captured in rivers of the Dryden, Ontario area prior to 1935?'.

Electronic data processing (EDP) can help with all of these aspects of museum activities.

Pioneering work in Canada on EDP or machine cataloguing of study collections of natural history objects had been carried out by Dr. J. H. Soper, then Professor of Botany, University of Toronto, and in charge of the Herbarium. Dr. Soper in 1966 was using a simple machine system to prepare herbarium records including specimen labels, index cards and punched paper tape. The punched tape could be reused later to reproduce the cards, etc. and with other equipment to produce, by machine, maps of the distribution of the plants in Ontario. We were able to profit from Dr. Soper's work and he advised us in the early stage of the design of a more complex system, to serve several collections, which was based on the storage, sorting, and retrieval capability of a computer.

In 1967 those ROM life scientists affiliated with the Department of Zoology, University of Toronto, applied to the National Research Council of Canada for a large grant to acquire, at ROM, equipment and support staff that would better facilitate studies of the relationships and evolution of various animal groups represented by the collections.

Part of this equipment was a small computer and a variety of peripheral equipment connected and programmed as required for our collections and studies. This system, although housed at ROM, is the property of the Department of Zoology, U. of T., and the operator, Ms. Penny McGann, is an employee of U. of T. The system serves several ROM departments and those staff members at U. of T. whose research work is similar to that of the ROM life sciences curators.

The main functions of the EDP system associated with the life sciences collections are as follows:

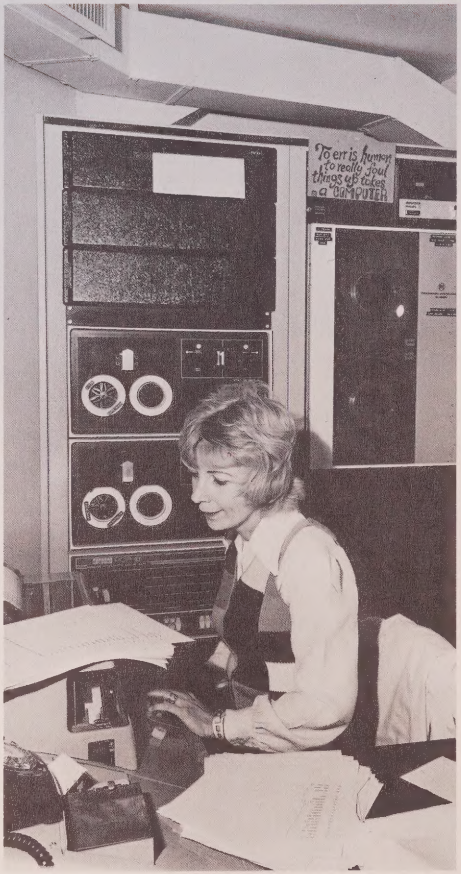
1.
To store on magnetic tapes the catalogue records of specimens in the various collections. The system involves check and proof stages to prevent the storage of incorrect information. It is also designed to save operator time by automatically repeating all common information for any number of separate lots. This is particularly handy when a single coral reef collection of fishes may result in a separate card, label and printout for up to 200 different species of fish for which all data on location, date, collector, will be exactly the same. Prior to the establishment of the EDP system the cataloguer in the fish department may have had to hand print all of the common information on all of the cards, labels and ledger entries.

2.
To utilize segments of these records for the automatic generation of typed specimen labels, 3 x 5 cards and ledger-type printouts. The programmes are so structured that each department can have its labels, etc. generated in a format suitable for its own requirements. This automatic cataloguing releases some of the time of various departmental personnel to be applied to the *study* of specimens.

3.
To sort, collate and print out those records in any of the various collections which fulfill a certain set of criteria, such as 'How many complete skeletons of *Tyrannosaurus rex* do we have from the *Upper Cretaceous* of *Montana?' or* 'What are the catalogue numbers of all collections of lake trout captured between May and July, in water less than 30 feet deep?'.

4.
To assist in the preparation of data concerning the location of individual collections of any species so that this data can be machine-plotted as a distribution map for Ontario, Canada or some other geographic area.

5.
To prepare data on individual specimens of various animals so that they can be tested with a variety of statistical programmes. Results of these computer tests can vary from printed statements of probability to three-dimensional machine drawings of the degree of relationship of various species of animals.



EDP operator adding records to the computer storage bank.

The capabilities of our small computer system are limited. In connection with these last two functions it can only prepare the information for analysis on the much larger computers available at the U. of T.

Sadly enough, technological advances and changes have occurred since the implementation of the ROM system. These changes may require gradual changes to our system which will make it more or less only a terminal to a much larger computer. These changes will however increase both the number of ways in which the computer will serve us and also the speed and convenience with which it does so. The advice of staff members like Dr. A. J. Baker in the ROM Department of Ornithology, whose training and research involves computer analysis, and who came to ROM after the system was designed, will have to be used for such changes. Here again we may profit by activities in another area as Dr. Baker is a member of a committee attempting to utilize the latest EDP equipment and knowledge to test the feasibility of many of the functions listed above in association with a *national* inventory of museum collections.

E. J. Crossman,
Curator, Ichthyology and Herpetology, ROM

New Members of the Royal Ontario Museum

Honorary Life Members

Mrs. J. W. Graham
Professor J. W. Graham

Annual Members

Mr. & Mrs. D. Aitchison
Mr. M. Bersohn
Miss M. F. Black
Mr. E. S. Bocskoy
Miss M. M. Bowyer
Dr. & Mrs. E. Brown
Mr. & Mrs. K. F. Bull
Mr. D. S. Cameron
Miss A. Chadwick
Miss F. Chernin
Mrs. B. R. Danson
Mrs. I. J. Dawson
Mrs. J. Deschamps
Mrs. J. R. Dunbar
Mrs. S. Dunfield
A. Emid
Dr. & Mrs. S. Fainstein
Miss M. R. Farmer
Mr. C. Farrell
Mr. & Mrs. F. R. Fisher
Miss M. Frost
Miss N. Galvin
Mrs. C. Gardner
Miss L. Gordon
Mr. R. C. Greig
Mrs. R. Halsall
Ms. S. Hintsa
Miss N. Holman
Mrs. R. B. Holmes
Miss M. van R. Hoogendyk
Mrs. R. D. Hutchison
Mr. & Mrs. M. Kellar
Mr. T. W. Kelly
Mrs. B. E. Lanning
Mrs. H. Lawson
Mr. T. MacHenny
Mr. & Mrs. P. S. Macklin
Miss V. Mathieson
Miss G. May
Miss M. J. McLeod
Miss M. E. McNab
Mrs. E. B. McPherson
Mr. D. Milne
Mrs. L. H. Mudie
Mr. B. Munsey
Major & Mrs. R. B. Oglesby
M. Oxley
Mr. R. G. Parker
Mrs. A. Peskett
Mrs. M. M. Pilo
Mr. J. P. Rapski
Mr. T. L. Reyto
Mr. L. S. Robideaux
Mrs. A. E. Rubery
Miss E. Salter
Dr. G. A. Sears
Mr. J. Sigman
Mrs. D. Silver
C. Slarolsky
Mrs. I. K. Smith
Mrs. P. A. Nasmith
J. Steadman
Ms. P. Stefanoy
Dr. P. G. Telford
Mr. D. Thurston
Mr. F. G. Torrie
Mrs. H. Tracy
Mr. G. Wachmann
Mrs. K. L. Wachmann
Miss L. E. Wark
Miss D. Westra
Mrs. L. M. Willings
Mr. J. Wilson
Mrs. C. Withell
Mr. R. W. Worthy

Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6

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The Chairman
and the Board of Trustees of the
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Mr. E. H. Durnash

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